VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1 (twice amended). A pair of oligonucleotide[s] primers, for use as a single primer set in the amplification of a target sequence located within the LTR region of the genome of HIV-1, said primer pair consisting essentially of a first hybridizing oligonucleotide being 10-[50] 26 nucleotides in length and comprising at least a fragment of 10 sequential nucleotides of a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID 1: G GGC GCC ACT GCT AGA GA;

SEQ ID 2: G TTC GGG CGC CAC TGC TAG A;

SEQ ID 3: CGG GCG CCA CTG CTA;

and a second hybridizing oligonucleotide being 10-[50] 26 nucleotides in length and comprising at least a fragment of 10 sequential nucleotides of a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID 4: CTG CTT AAA GCC TCA ATA AA;

SEQ ID 5: CTC AAT AAA GCT TGC CTT GA;

SEQ ID 12: GAT GCA TGC TCA ATA AAG CTT GCC TGG AGT.

2 (twice amended). A pair of oligonucleotides according to claim 3, consisting essentially of a first oligonucleotide being 10-[50] 26 nucleotides in length and comprising at least a fragment of 10 sequential nucleotides of the sequence:

SEQ ID 1: G GGC GCC ACT GCT AGA GA and a second oligonucleotide being 10-[50] 26 nucleotides in length and comprising at least a fragment of 10 sequential nucleotides of the sequence SEQ ID 5: CTC AAT AAA GCT TGC CTT GA.

13 (new). A pair of oligonucleotide primers consisting of:

(i) a first hybridizing oligonucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID 1: G GGC GCC ACT GCT AGA GA;

SEQ ID 2: G TTC GGG CGC CAC TGC TAG A; and

SEQ ID 3: CGG GCG CCA CTG CTA; and

(ii) a second hybridizing oligonucleotide selected from the group consisting of:
SEQ ID 4: CTG CTT AAA GCC TCA ATA AA;
SEQ ID 5: CTC AAT AAA GCT TGC CTT GA; and
SEQ ID 12: GAT GCA TGC TCA ATA AAG CTT GCC TGG AGT.

14 (new). A method for the detection of HIV-1 nucleic acid in a sample, comprising the steps of subjecting the sample to a nucleic acid amplification reaction under suitable conditions using a pair of oligonucleotides according to claim 13, and suitable amplification reagents, and detecting the presence of amplified HIV-1 nucleic acid.